Updated Report: Wednesday, 13th of December 2023

The sixty-eight Day of the Israeli aggression against Palestine

Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine

From October 7 until December 13, 2023

Some of the information contained in this report is as of Tuesday evening, 12th of December 2023.

The Emergency Operations Center at the Ministry of Health in Ramallah supervises the data collection process through its offices in Gaza. Numbers are updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect confirmed statistics only but do not necessarily reflect all victims due to the fact that many victims are still missing under the rubble.

Current Situation:

Health System:

- Between October 7 and December 12, at least 18,400 Palestinians were martyred in the Gaza Strip, according to data from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, about 70% of whom were women and children. More than 50,000 people are reported to have been injured, with large number missing.
- On 12th of December, Israeli occupation forces raided Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahiya, arresting the director, and transporting approximately 70 medical staff to an unknown location. The remaining staff were ordered to gather patients and caregivers in one building, leaving others without electricity, water, or food.
- Limited aid distributions are occurring in Rafah governorate, while most of Gaza faces halted aid distribution due to Israeli occupation forces attacks and restrictions on movement.
- The spread of diseases in Gaza has intensified due to overcrowded living conditions, putting additional strain on an overwhelmed health system. The Ministry of Health documented 360,000 cases of infectious diseases in shelters, with the actual number believed to be higher.

- WHO recorded 231 attacks in Gaza on health facilities since October 7, affecting 60 health facilities and 76 ambulances. Critical shortages of supplies and fuel have left only 11 out of 36 hospitals partially functional.
- Since October 7, the total casualties in Gaza have reached at least 18,205, with approximately 70% being women and children, and about 50,100 reported injuries. Many remain missing, possibly buried under rubble.
- UNRWA verifies reports of forced evacuations from its health clinic and school shelters, with subsequent shootings or arrests. Forty-one UNRWA installations were directly hit, and 60 sustained collateral damage.

Major Events:

- On December 12, heavy Israeli bombardments persisted across Gaza, particularly in Rafah and Khan Younis.
- On December 12, 107 trucks carrying humanitarian supplies entered Gaza from Egypt. This is below the daily average of 500 truckloads recorded before October 7. Minimal Fuel deliveries are also occurring to key service providers, prioritizing hospitals in the south.
- Palestinian Journalist Syndicate reports 81 Palestinian journalists and media workers martyred in Israeli airstrikes since October 7.
- Israeli occupation forces detained hundreds of men, boys, women, and girls, subjecting them to harsh treatment during their passage of the designated "safe corridors". Shockingly, reports have surfaced detailing instances of torture, sexual harassment, and threats of rape among the released detainees, especially women and girls. This violation of human rights further exacerbates the already dire humanitarian situation, necessitating urgent attention and intervention to address these grave abuses.
- Security Council envoys visit Rafah Crossing, the only open entry point into Gaza, on December 11 to assess the humanitarian situation.
- The Gaza Strip has remained under an electricity blackout since October 11, significantly impacting critical services.

Population and Displacement:

- As of 12 December, according to UNRWA, more than 1.9 million people in Gaza, or nearly 90 % of the population, were estimated to be forcibly displaced. Nearly 1.2 million of these FDPs were registered in 154 UNRWA facilities across Gaza, of whom about one million are registered in 94 UNRWA shelters in the south.
- On average, UNRWA shelters in the middle and southern areas are currently hosting nine times the planned number of FDPs.
- Obtaining an accurate count is challenging, given difficulties including in tracking FDPs staying with host families, the movement of FDPs following evacuation orders since 1 December, and the evacuation of five UNRWA shelters in eastern Khan Younis on 6 December.
- Since December 1st, various areas, comprising nearly 30% of the Gaza Strip, have been marked for forcible displacement by the Israeli Occupation.

Public Health catastrophe:

- • Children's vaccinations have been completely exhausted, which will have catastrophic health repercussions on children's health and the spread of diseases, especially among the displaced in overcrowded shelter centers.
- Israeli occupation forces' actions, such as blowing up an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun That is sheltering thousands of forcibly displaced persons on December 12 and raiding Kamal Adwan Hospital, exacerbate the public health crisis.
- With the onset of winter and decreasing temperatures, there is an immediate and critical requirement for blankets, warm clothing, and adequate shelters. Many forcibly displaced persons (FDPs) had to abandon their homes without any belongings, and the makeshift shelters are ill-prepared to withstand rain and wind, leading to floods. This situation heightens the risk of diseases during cold conditions, compounding the ongoing displacement crisis and posing a severe threat to public health and well-being.
- The remains of Gaza civilians, either buried beneath the rubble or left unattended due to the actions of Israeli occupation forces, are now undergoing decomposition in the streets and beneath the rubbles. This disturbing situation poses an imminent and significant risk of a public health crisis.

- The lack of formula for babies in the current situation poses a severe risk of starvation and dehydration, contributing to a public health crisis.
- Due to the overcrowding and poor sanitary conditions at UNRWA shelters in the south, there have been significant increases in some communicable diseases and conditions. The Ministry of Health in Gaza reported cases of meningitis, jaundice, impetigo, chickenpox, upper respiratory tract infections, smallpox, diarrhea, and influenza.
- The health conditions of FDPs outside UNRWA shelters are unclear, posing a public health risk due to limited access to medication, health facilities, and proper hygiene sources.
- On December 8th, the Gaza Municipality reported sewage flowing in the streets as pumping stations ceased operations due to a lack of fuel. Almost all water wells had also stopped working for the same reasons.
- Vulnerable groups face challenging shelter conditions, including people with disabilities, pregnant and breastfeeding women, individuals recovering from injuries or surgeries, and those with weakened immune systems.
- Efforts for children vaccination are minimal. since 4th of November, only 12,000 children have received vaccinations in UNRWA shelters.

Destroyed Buildings:

- Exact numbers of destroyed buildings are unavailable due to continued bombings.
- Latest updates indicate over 60% of housing units destroyed, exacerbating health vulnerabilities.

The West Bank, including Jerusalem:

- Since October 7, the West Bank reported 282 martyrs.
- The occupation forces are still storming the city of Jenin for the second day, where 7 Palestinians were martyred, and the occupation forces arrested dozens of citizens.
- Attacks on hospitals, health centers, and ambulances increase in the West Bank, limiting access to basic healthcare services.
- Settler attacks continue, with 331 incidents recorded since 7 October, resulting in casualties and damage to Palestinian-owned property.

- Since 7 October, at least 143 Palestinian households comprising 1,014 people, including 388 children, have been displaced amid settler violence and access restrictions.

Urgent Needs:

- Immediate cessation of Israeli brutal war against Palestinian civilians.
- Urgent implementation of international humanitarian laws protecting health institutions and civilians.
- Immediate and unconditional entry of humanitarian and health supplies into Gaza.
- Halt forcible displacement of civilians.
- Urgent support for search and rescue operations.